In the claims:

1-27. (canceled).

28. (currently amended). An immortalised human cell-line expressing tissue specific function wherein the cells also comprise at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell-line, for use in transplantation, wherein the immortalised cell-line is immortalised by an immortalising agent, wherein the immortalising agent is an immortalising oncogene.

29. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 obtained from immature, undifferentiated or precursor cells.

30. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28, wherein the cells express a mature differentiated phenotype.

31. (previously presented) An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28, wherein the cell-line is a hypertrophic chondrocyte cell-line, bone marrow stromal cell-line or a neural cell-line.

32-34. (canceled).

35. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 ~~34~~ wherein the immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ is a viral oncogene.

36. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 ~~33~~ wherein ~~the immortalizing agent is~~ a construct comprises the immortalising oncogene.

37. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 36 wherein the construct is a retroviral construct.

38. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 ~~33~~ wherein the immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ includes or has associated therewith a control means.

39. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 38 wherein the control means is responsive to environmental conditions.

40. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 38 wherein the immortalising oncogene ~~agent~~ and control means are integrated.

41. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 40 wherein the integrated immortalising oncogene ~~immortalisation agent~~ and control means comprise a temperature sensitive entity.

42. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 41 wherein the temperature sensitive entity is the integrated immortalising ~~an~~ oncogene.

43. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 ~~34~~ wherein the immortalising oncogene is myc, ras, or src.

44. (currently amended). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 ~~34~~ wherein the immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ is SV40 T antigen.

45. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 29 wherein the immature, undifferentiated or precursor cells are obtained from CNS.

46. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 29 wherein the immature, undifferentiated or precursor cells are obtained from a region of the CNS selected from the group consisting of cortex, striatum, hypothalamus, rostroventral mesencephalon, caudoventral mesencephalon, medullary brainstem or the dorsal or ventral horns of the spinal cord.

47. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 28 wherein the safety means is a gene.

48. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 47 wherein the gene is viral TK.

49. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 47, wherein the gene is co-expressed with the immortalising oncogene.

50. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 47 wherein the gene is placed downstream of the immortalising oncogene.

51. (previously presented). An immortalised cell-line according to claim 50 wherein the gene is placed 3' to an IRES.

52. (withdrawn). A method of treating an individual, said method comprising administering to the individual an immortalised human cell-line expressing tissue specific function, wherein the immortalised human cell-line further comprises at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the immortalised human cell-line, and wherein said immortalised human cell-line is administered to said individual as a cell transplant for treating said individual.

53. (withdrawn). The method of claim 52, wherein the cell-line is obtained from immature, undifferentiated or precursor cells.

54. (previously presented). A homogeneous population of immortalised human cells expressing tissue specific function.

55. (previously presented). A homogeneous population of cells according to claim 54, wherein the cells also comprise at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the cells.

56. (previously presented). A homogeneous population of cells according to claim 55, for use in transplantation.

57. (currently amended). A human undifferentiated cell of a given tissue type wherein the undifferentiated cell has been immortalised using an immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ and wherein the cell also comprises at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell.

58. (currently amended). A method of generating an immortalised human undifferentiated cell-line with a safety means for selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell-line comprising immortalising an undifferentiated cell of a given tissue type, wherein the undifferentiated cell is immortalised using an immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ and wherein the cell also comprises at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell.

59. (currently amended). A method of generating an immortalised human differentiated cell-line with a safety means for selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell-line comprising:

a. immortalising an undifferentiated cell of a given tissue type, wherein the undifferentiated cell is immortalised using an immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ and wherein the immortalised cell also comprises at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell-line.

b. culturing the immortalised cell in order to produce a homogeneous population of human cells,

c. allowing the cell to differentiate in the presence of a differentiating agent.

60. (previously presented). A method according to claim 59 wherein the process of allowing differentiation of the cells involves exposure of the cells to a differentiating agent.

61. (previously presented). A method according to claim 60 wherein the differentiating agent is selected from the group consisting of a ciliary neurotrophic factor, a glial cell neurotrophic factor, a brain-derived neurotrophic factor, a nerve growth factor, a fibroblast growth factor, an epidermal growth factor, a platelet-derived growth factor, retinoic acid, and sera.

62. (currently amended). A method according to claim 58 wherein transcription of the immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ also results in transcription of the safety means.

63. (withdrawn). Use of immature, undifferentiated or precursor cells to produce terminally differentiated human cell lines that express tissue-specific functions.

64. (withdrawn). Use of immature, undifferentiated or precursor cells according to claim 63, wherein the cells also comprise at least one safety means which enables selective disabling and/or destruction of the cell-line.

65. (currently amended). A method according to claim 59 wherein transcription of the immortalising oncogene ~~gene~~ also results in transcription of the safety means.